

Ben Minor and Clark Griffith Leave for Big Meeting--"Senator" Discusses Naps

FOR BIG MEETING

Changes Have Been Made to Bring About This Change, But the Team Has Many Fragile Places in Out-field and Infield.

By "SENATOR."

Read This Series.

Today "Senator" offers the first of a series of ante-season diagnoses of American League teams for 1913, discussing their chances for success in the scramble for the pennant. By the time the series is ended the fans will have all the available facts concerning the teams before they go South.

One of the four or five really interesting teams in the major leagues on the eve of the training season is the Cleveland club. Changes have been made with the view of speeding up the machine and it would not be surprising to find the Forest City tribe setting a fast pace from the drop of the hat. However, the writer does not believe the Naps capable of picking up the pennant honors in 1913. Their mainstays are Joe Jackson, Larry Lajoie, and Dean Grover. Jackson is dependable, the others fragile to an extreme. Then there is Terry Turner, another breakable piece of furniture in the front yard. With two men in the infield liable to be hurt at almost any moment, it stands to reason that team work in that infield is going to suffer. It always has with the Naps just on this account.

Remove Dean Grover from the twinning stiff and the Naps have only a very ordinary collection of fingers. Bland, Baskette, and Stein looked good at the time last summer, but their all-around work was very streaky and holds out little promise for the future. Kahler is a classy man and a busher for tomorrow. Fred Falkenberg came over in the Mayflower. The others are practically unknown.

Larry a Weakness.

Though admittedly a wonderful hitter and still a marvelous fielder, despite slowing with age, Larry Lajoie is one of the weaknesses of the Naps. He slows up that infield more than is seen in a glance. His general lackadaisical manner on the field seems to impress the other men with similar lassitude and, when Larry can make amends, the others frequently cannot. His influence is lathargic. Larry is too good to be beaten out by any promising youngster, and not good enough to make part of a championship machine. Until the Cleveland club looks this problem in the face and settles it once for all, the Naps will continue their easy style of play, and see smarter and more widespread club pass them in the struggle for the highest honor.

Terry Turner is a great third baseman, just as he was once a great shortstop. When he first burst upon the major league Turner was a cricket for action and a glutton for food. But that was some time ago. Now, when illness has robbed him of much of his speed, and he is now on the stick list as often as he is on the lead list, blocking the rise of some future third baseman.

Chapman Is Fast.

In Ray Chapman, the Naps seem to have picked up a live wire. In thirty-one games last year this former Toledo star hit for .312, and looked good for even better figures in time to come. As

a fielder he covers plenty of ground, and is a distinct improvement upon those other infants tried in the shortstop in the recent past.

The other bit of new blood in the Naps' infield is "Doc" Johnston, the big lefthanded first baseman. Not the best fielder in the world, he is a fair hitter, reaching .230 in 43 games in 1912. But the best thing about this big fellow is his spirit of hustle. Replacing that moose, Art Grieg, he came as a burst of lightning almost a gloomy sky. He electrified the Naps' infield quartet until it actually began to hustle. Even the Franchman kicked up his heels in content and appeared a few that had been going by. If Johnston can keep up this "papi" through a summer in Cleveland, well, it may mean great things for the Naps.

New blood is expected to show itself in the outfield, too, this year. "Nemo" Liebhold, from the American Association, is in a scrap to land a berth with the Naps and is being hoped to beat out Jack Graney, "Buddy" Ryan, Johnny Beall and the rest of them.

Liebold a "Comer."

Liebold was with Milwaukee last year, and though not very high in the figures, flashed to the fore toward the end of the season and was considered the best youngster in sight. An army of clubs put in drafts for him, but he escaped the net. Then came a mixup in the draft and Cleveland was allowed to pick a man from Milwaukee, and, of course, chose Liebold. His admirers say that he will easily win a place for himself on the Naps. Maybe!

The catching staff of the Naps is only fair. Fred Carich is the best, but he's never set any world on fire. He has brains, though, something badly needed behind the bat when those crazy Cleveland twirlers get busy with the bat. Grover Land, returning from Toledo on a promise of staying "on the wagon" will be a strong factor in the team. He is not a high class base runner, but he is a high class base runner. Steve O'Neill is tall and rangy, has a good arm and has some brains which should make him valuable when he has acquired some experience.

Gregg Is Star.

Dean Gregg is the star of the Naps' pitching corps, equalling Eddie Plank in his own team. He and Plank are the best southpaws in the American League bar none. He should be a winner again in 1913.

Joe Birmingham will have his troubles with the rest of his pitching staff. In-and-outers bring gray hairs to the manager and the Naps are wonderful in-and-outers all down the line. Blanding is the best of the right-handers. Stein is good sometimes. Kahler is a good pitcher, but he is in an effort to become a winner. They are all experiments, save Blanding, and the Naps are back to back for the third time in the big show. If he makes good, most fans will be agreeably surprised.

Then there are Nick Culp, the costly youth from New Orleans; Willie Mitchell, and Fred Wadsworth, two of the unknown skill. Mitchell was horrid last year, winning five and losing eight. In the same, the child man from Birmingham in his latest ability keeps him on the team. On the whole, one can give the Naps much on their pitcher.

Joe Birmingham, of course, will play the field. He is one of the best outfielders in the league and his intelligence makes Joe Jackson look pretty good alongside of him. Without Birney in the field, the child man from Birmingham rounds him a lost soul and loses half his skill.

The Naps have two great hitters in Lajoie and Jackson, and a marvelous southpaw pitcher in Gregg, but they have a slight capable of standing the pace.

Defeated Holy Cross Relay Team at Boston Last Night



PHOTO BY G. V. YAUER

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT THEY ARE: TERWILLIGER, STEBBINS, HORTER, GALLAGHER, AND DARR (MGR.).

PENN AND HARVARD ELEVENS MEET

TWO YEARS HENCE

Reunion of These Teams May Be Result of Recent Visit of Truxton Hare.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Feb. 8.—It would not be at all surprising to find Harvard and Penn. football teams meeting in the near future. The two teams were last seen in action in 1911, when they met at the stadium in Cambridge. The Harvard team, which was defeated by the Penn. team, 12 to 0, was then a very young team. The Penn. team, on the other hand, was a very experienced team. The two teams were then in the midst of a rebuilding process. The Harvard team was then in the midst of a rebuilding process. The Penn. team, on the other hand, was a very experienced team. The two teams were then in the midst of a rebuilding process.

Truxton Hare, chairman of the Pennsylvania football committee, recently visited Cambridge and had an extended conference with the Harvard football team. He was very much pleased with the result of his visit here, and a future Harvard-Penn. contest appears to be in the air. Hare has assumed the position of head coach at Penn.

Charleston Entries For Tomorrow

First race—Purse, \$200; selling; three-year-olds and upward; six furlongs. Mattie L. 90; Polly Worth, 85; "Pendant," 87; Venus Strong, 115; Gagnant, 102; Elma, 102; "Dipper," 104; Blanche Frances, 102; Osmar, 106; Rose Queen, 98; "Edith Inez," 104; Winfield L., 108.

Second race—Purse, \$200; selling; four-year-olds and upward; five and one-half furlongs. Royal Tea, 100; Mack B. Eubanks, 98; Samuel R. Myers, 101; Coppertown, 116; Col. Ashmeade, 103; Gold Card, 110; Spohn, 112; Amoret, 102.

Third race—Purse, \$200; selling; four-year-olds and upward; five and one-half furlongs. Royal Tea, 100; Mack B. Eubanks, 98; Samuel R. Myers, 101; Coppertown, 116; Col. Ashmeade, 103; Gold Card, 110; Spohn, 112; Amoret, 102.

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Bull Moosers Fall Before National Guard

Showing the best form of any time of the season, the National Guard's football team, which defeated the M. C. Bull Moosers last night and won handsily, 21 to 2. The winners were much accurate in their play, shooting while the exhibition of the Bull Moosers was very miserable, most of the latter's plays being a series of blunders. McDowell, playing his first game at center, was easily the best performer of the game. Though the position was new to him, he acquitted himself with the ease of a finished player. Giovanni and McDaniel, who were new to the team, were also very good. The passing and defensive work of both quints was commendable.

BOSTON IMPRESSED WITH G. U. RELAY

Invited to B. A. A. Games at Last Moment, Georgetown Quartet Acquires Itself Well Against Holy Cross Team.

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 8.—Georgetown's crack relay team proved too much for the Holy Cross quartet at the annual Boston A. A. games here last night and as a result, the Washington institution established itself on a strong footing with local fans. Only at the last moment were the Blue and Gray athletes invited to compete, their showing had been so poor for the last two years, but they acquitted themselves well and now they will surely be invited here again next season.

Georgetown sent one of the best relay fours ever seen in Boston. Right off the reel Horter grabbed a lead on the first Holy Cross runner and handed Johnny Gallagher, who won fame for his country in the Olympic marathon last summer, a twenty-yard vantage for the second relay. The little speedster had the fastest man on the Purple team in Lee for his opponent, but he fought manfully around the corner and gave a ten-yard lead to Stebbins.

Georgetown's third runner took things easily, as Collier, of Holy Cross, had no speed. Terwilliger, Georgetown's last man, fairly flew around the corner and Higgins, of Holy Cross, was left far behind. The winner finished with room to spare. Georgetown's time, 2:12 1-5, was one of the fastest of the night.

Eller Wins Heat.

Bob Eller, the Georgetown captain, showed a fine burst of speed in his heat in the forty-five yard hurdles and won in record time of six seconds. He got

BOB THAYER'S SPORTING GOSSIP

"EVERY KNOCK IS A BOOST."

Serious case.—The release suffered by John Henry is likely to have a serious effect on the "Chimbers" year, unless the big fellow recovers in time to be of service to the team when the season opens. He is needed in the line behind that bat for his brains, and no rookie catcher, no matter how promising, is going to fill his place.

Campbell again.—Johnny Campbell's running yesterday in the Memorial Club's ten-mile race through the city streets was beautiful to see and stamped him as one of the best lads at the distance in this section. He used judgment in running, and could have made faster time had it been necessary.

The big meeting.—Where there is so much smoke there just must be some fire, and I look for some trades to result from the big meeting of the major leagues in New York this week. Several clubs have players who don't seem to fit into the scheme of things, and efforts will be made to send them along to some other organization.

A good choice.—If Jack Hegarty becomes head coach at C. U. next fall, the Brooklanders will have made a good choice. At the Hill-top Hegarty made a good record on the team, and was considered one of the brainiest and as well as one of the gamiest men on the team. C. U. can go much farther and fare worse.

Up to the A. A. U.—It is now up to the A. A. U. officials to suspend those runners who participated in the Memorial Club's run yesterday. The boys are deserving of much praise for sticking together for a prize.

Leary good man.—If Leo Leary comes here to coach the Georgetown eleven, the Hilltoppers will have one of the best coaches in the East. He has the Houghton system at his fingers' ends and should turn out a rover in keeping with those of the last two seasons.

Explanation needed.—Some explanation is needed from the National Guard as to the absence of its nine entrants in the Memorial Club's run. Knowing that the run was sanctioned and would result in suspension for those appearing, to an outsider it would appear as if the Guardsmen got "cold feet." It is now in order for them to come forward with some kind of an explanation that will fit the occasion.

SWIMMING TO BE ADDED TO SPORTS OF Y. M. C. A. BOYS

Washington Youngsters Victorious in All-Day Carnival of Athletics.

The "International League" will also hold their schedule meeting in New York, being called together tomorrow. These three leagues will draw to New York from the National League and the American League will also be in the country, both in the morning and in the afternoon.

All New York is waiting anxiously for the arrival of Frank Chance, and it is certain that he will receive a wonderful reception when he alights from the train at the Grand Central station. The Naps' new manager is expected to depart from New York on Wednesday at the latest, and then the preparations for the coming season will begin in earnest.

The National Association will hold its annual meeting at the Astor tomorrow.

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GRIFFITH LEAVES FOR BIG MEETING

Washington Represented by President and Manager at Schedule Meeting of Big Leagues in New York—Dates Should Be Issued by Tuesday to Waiting Fans.

By "SENATOR."

"Senator" Going.

At the big meeting of the major leagues in New York this week, The Times will have "Senator" on the scene, keeping all Washington fans posted as to what is going on among the baseball magnates and managers. His first stories from the baseball children will be seen in these pages tomorrow.

Considerable big league doings are expected before the teams depart for their home towns. Rumors have the Red Sox, Yankees, White Sox, Naps, Reds, and Cubs figuring in deals for players. "Buck" O'Brien, the Red Sox pitcher, Ray Keating, the big rookie pitcher with the Yankees, Harry Lord, the White Sox star, Larry Lajoie, the Naps' veteran hitter, Jimmy Archer, the crack backstop of the Cubs, and a few more lesser known players have been mentioned as likely to figure in deals.

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Texas League two years ago by the Browns, signed his 1913 contract.

Manager Fred Clarke says he offered four men for Ed Konetchy, the star first baseman of the Cardinals, still stands.

"He might be a good drawing card, but he'll never be a good ball player," said Barney Dreyfus, discussing Jack Thorpe's case. Gee, we thought the magnates were after the dough only.

Eddie Plank is the only Athletic regular who has not signed his contract.

Bill Roid, manager of the San Francisco Seals, former Brooklyn and Athletic twirler, says the Naps will finish near the top this season.

Manager Miller Huggins, of the Cards, says that when he fails to hit .300 in 1913, he will consider quitting, but not until then.

The Boston Red Sox and the Pirates will play a series of nine games at Hot Springs, Ark., this spring.

Hans Wagner, the slugging Dutchman, says the Pirates are the dark horse for the 1913 race. Hans does not predict a pennant, but expects the club to be up there fighting.

Washington Lads on Virginia Relay Team

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va., Feb. 8.—The names of Roger Bone and "Mickey" Guy, former track athletes at the Washington Western High School have been included among the Virginia relay entries in the Fifth Regiment games here Saturday at Baltimore. There is a possibility of one or both participating in the mile relay race in which Virginia will meet Penn and Carolina.

Crosley, the former Episcopal High School crack, will be taken to the games to run the hurdle race and "Pop" Lannigan, the Orange and Blue trainer, predicts he will make it interesting for Bob Eller, the Georgetown leader.

Lannigan has decided to send only two teams to the Fifth Regiment games, because of the insufficient guarantee offered by the Fifth Regiment track management to defray expenses for three teams, as was previously requested. Manager Burghs has been notified that a two-mile race with Charles in now a certainty, as is the mile event. Virginia is very anxious to win the mile relay, as a loss might hurt her chances for the Southern title, which she has won for many years past.

Following men have been entered by Virginia in the mile relay: Bone, Guy, Todd, Captain Cooke, and Dreyfus. The Orange and Blue runners in action: Gannett, Beckel, Hart, Harris, Barton, Cooke, and Dobb.

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